

Appl. No. : 10/797,888
Filed : March 9, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 11, 17, 18, 21-25, 33, 39, 40, and 43-78 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 13, and 14 have been amended. Claims 3, 12-16, 19, 20, 26-32, 34-38, 41, and 42 have been canceled. New Claims 47-78 have been added. Support for the amendments and new claims is found in the specification and claims as filed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowability with respect to Claims 20 and 42, which have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include all limitations of Claim 20. Claims 2-4, 11, 17, 18, 21, and 22 depend from currently amended Claim 1. Independent Claim 23 has been amended to include all limitations of Claim 42. Claims 24, 25, 33, 39, 40, and 43-45 depend from currently amended Claim 23. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-3, 7, 11-14, 17, 18, and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Perng et al. (US 2004/0067657A1). Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the propriety of the rejection, Claim 1 has been amended to include all limitations of allowable Claim 20. Claims 2, 3, 11, 17, 18, and 21 depend from currently amended Claim 1. Claims 7 and 12-14 have been canceled without prejudice, solely to facilitate issuance of the claims indicated to be allowable. Applicant reserves the ability to pursue the canceled claims, or similar claims, in one or more continuing patent applications. The rejection is therefore moot.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 23-25, 29, 33-36, 39, 40, 43, 45, and 46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Perng et al. Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the propriety of the rejection, Claim 23 has been amended to include all limitations of allowable Claim 42. Claims 24, 25, 35, 36, 39, 40, 43, 45, and 46 depend from currently amended Claim 23. Claims 29 and 34-36 have been canceled without prejudice, solely to facilitate issuance of the claims indicated to be allowable. Applicant reserves the ability to pursue the canceled

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claims, or similar claims, in one or more continuing patent applications. The rejection is therefore moot.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 4-6, 8-10, 15, 16, 26-28, 30-32, 37, and 38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Perng et al. in view of US 6,692,976 ("Mirkarimi et al."). Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the propriety of the rejection, Claims 4-6, 8-10, 15, 16, 26-28, 30-32, 37, and 38 have been canceled without prejudice, solely to facilitate issuance of the claims indicated to be allowable. Applicant reserves the ability to pursue the canceled claims, or similar claims, in one or more continuing patent applications. The rejection is therefore moot.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 19, 22, and 41 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Perng et al. in view of US 6,835,667 ("Christenson et al."). Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the propriety of the rejection, Claims 19 and 41 have been canceled without prejudice, solely to facilitate issuance of the claims indicated to be allowable. Claim 22 depends from amended Claim 1. Applicant reserves the ability to pursue the canceled claims, or similar claims, in one or more continuing patent applications. The rejection is therefore moot.

Conclusion

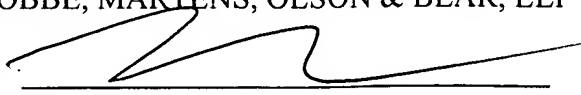
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns that might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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